

# Crosscut



◀ Pewter inlaid turnings from the AWSA web site.

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**Next Turners Meeting on Monday, the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018** from 18h00 at the Living Link Hall —

Presentations –Turning a Square Bowl  
Wood of the month – Beefwood – Casuarina – please bring examples to show.

**Next General Meeting on Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018** from 18h00 at the Living Link Hall – AGM and a presentation on our TOYS FOR CHARITY project

## News

**3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 – Turners meeting.** Making wooden bangles. Herman Potgieter showed the various approaches and work holding techniques he uses to make wooden bangles on the lathe. John Bond spoke about his PCD tipped Blackline tool range from circumference. These are locally designed tools that are marketed in the USA.

Wood of the month – White stinkwood – Celtis Africana. Trevor repeated Chris van Heeswijk's presentation from some time ago, and showed some examples of stools made of it.

**11<sup>th</sup> April 2018- General Club meeting.** Handy Gadgets for use in the Workshop. Ken Bullivant (below), Peter Middleton (showing his router



table at the right), Alistair Brande and other members.

Trevor demonstrated how to use electrolysis to de-rust tools with no further damage. Also, if the purple colour in methylated spirits is a concern for finishing, Trevor showed how to remove it.



## Club Notices

Annual subs are due. They remain at R400- for the year.



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY  
9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018 AT THE TRAINING CENTRE, LIVING LINK, PARKHURST AT  
18H00**

If you are unable to attend, please complete the proxy form to nominate somebody to represent you at the meeting, so that we reach the required quorum.

The AGM will be followed by a normal club meeting.

**Possible future visits and courses being considered by the committee:**

- Door Making – factory visit and demonstration at Greg Hirschon’s factory in Robertville – near Austro. Greg will demonstrate how they make a door – Saturday Morning.
- Airbrushing course at Vermont, Olifantsfontein – week day.

Details will be advised when available. Please respond to Alistair when he requests feedback on so that he can confirm attendance when the dates become available.

**The Turners’ Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May demo** at the clubhouse in Albertskroon, will “revolve” around turning a Square Bowl.

**AWSA Symposium – George, 21 to 24 September, 2018.** This year, John Wessels will be the principal demonstrator and the theme will be “break our boundaries”. If you have attended previous AWSA congresses, you may be familiar with John’s work, particularly his signature pewter inlaid vessels (see below, taken from [www.awsa.org.za](http://www.awsa.org.za)). John will share many techniques he has picked up from around the world to take your turning to new levels.



The 2018 challenge, honouring Al Stirt, the 2017 featured demonstrator – will be a square edged bowl.

**Regular Events:**

**Toymakers.** The toymakers meet on the first and third Mondays of every month, at 09h00 till 12h00 at the Albertskroon workshop. Meetings will be cancelled if they coincide with a public holiday. Winston will open up the workshop – see Winston’s contact details below.

**Ken’s Saturday Workshop.** Ken Bullivant holds a Saturday workshop at his house in Boksburg. The location is 13 Franklin Avenue, Comet, Boksburg on the first Saturday of the month from 09:00 to 12:00. They decide on an annual project and work

throughout the year making it. Individual projects are discussed and problems solved. Ken also offers private lessons too. Contact Ken on 082 809 0020 if you wish to take part.

**Friday Morning workshop** - Winston Klein will be convening a workshop at the Albertskroon work shop on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays monthly from 09:00 to 12:00. Contact Winston at 072 553 5045 or [kleins AT iburst.co.za](mailto:kleins AT iburst.co.za)

### **SPIRIT OF THE WOOD - WOODTURNERS**

Offering Woodturning lessons, One-on One Training, Classes and Club, Willing to assist persons with limited physical/intellectual abilities. Contact Johan Kramer on 083 251 0183 or [Johankramer300@gmail.com](mailto:Johankramer300@gmail.com)

### **Saturday meetings**

1. Second Saturday of month - Herman will open the workshop – all things turning related – 083-631-0501 [hermanpotgieteresq AT gmail.com](mailto:hermanpotgieteresq AT gmail.com)
2. Third Saturday of month – Clive will open the workshop – 083 407 8008 [stacey AT netactive.co.za](mailto:stacey AT netactive.co.za) Clive will also open the workshop during the week “BY ARRANGEMENT”
3. Fourth Saturday of month – Graham will open the workshop – 082 900 0242 [grahamcr AT mweb.co.za](mailto:grahamcr AT mweb.co.za)  
“SHOULD NO ONE ARRIVE BY 10h00 THE WORKSHOP WILL BE CLOSED.”

**Please can the conveners complete the attendance register on the bar counter, so we can gauge attendance?**

**The closing up instructions must please be followed by the convener when leaving. Graham has placed the procedure in prominent positions in the workshop.**

## **Small lathes available on the local market.**

Trevor Pope

In last month's Crosscut, the lowest cost mini-lathe and entry level tools were described. There are a number of other mini lathes available locally, albeit at higher prices. These are described below.

It is 3 years since the last article on local market for woodturning lathes. There have been some significant changes that may influence your decisions.

- **Strand Hardware now has the agency for Technatool, the manufacturers of Nova lathes.** The benefit of this is likely to be improved stock holdings and spares support. Strand offer good service and have an informative web site. The downside, is that there is now another intermediary in the supply chain, so you may have noticed some significant price rises in Nova lathes, that cannot be blamed on the exchange rate. (History is repeating itself here. Many years ago (2003), SA Machinery imported a range of Jet equipment, at very reasonable prices, and Jet got a foothold in the local market. Soon afterwards, Strand Hardware acquired the Jet agency, and prices rose accordingly.) In Strand's defense, it must be said that their stock holding and spares support significantly improved compared with SA Machinery. ([www.strandhardware.co.za](http://www.strandhardware.co.za))
- As a consequence of the Technatool agency moving to Strand, **Mr Woodturner is now importing the Charnwood range of machinery.** Charnwood is an old British brand name, with a long history in the UK. As is usual with Mr Woodturner, there is a range of spares and accessories to support the machinery that they sell. ([www.mrwoodturner.co.za](http://www.mrwoodturner.co.za))
- Well-known Pretoria wood turner Carel van der Merwe is importing a range of Chinese made lathes that also seem to offer good value for money. ( [www.creativeturning.co.za](http://www.creativeturning.co.za) )

Almost all the lathes mentioned below accept #2 MT tooling and all have a 1" x 8tpi headstock spindle thread. Larger lathes will be described in a future article. Although prices have been included, remember these are subject to change – consult the web sites listed above and look out for specials as well.

### **Mini lathes**

**Jet** – The mini-lathe category was defined by the Jet Mini – JWL-1014, which has been available since 2003 in South Africa. It has been updated slightly over the years to include an indexing pin/spindle lock, but is essentially unchanged. It can turn a workpiece up to 10 inches in diameter by 14 inches long (250mm diam x 350mm long), with 5 fixed speeds from the ½ horsepower (370W) induction motor. The

10 inches diameter is over the bed, and doesn't include the tool rest banjo, so you won't be able turn a full 10" x 14" cylinder without fouling the tool rest banjo.

The JWL-1014 is an excellent starter lathe. If you out-grow this lathe or lose interest, it has good resale value. A bed extension is available to increase the maximum length between centres. It has been offered in a variable speed version (JWL1014VS), which uses a DC motor. The VS has been criticised for lack of torque at low speeds, even on the lowest belt speed range. This may concern you only when roughing out large pieces, when a light touch will be needed. The JWL-1014 lists at R9400-



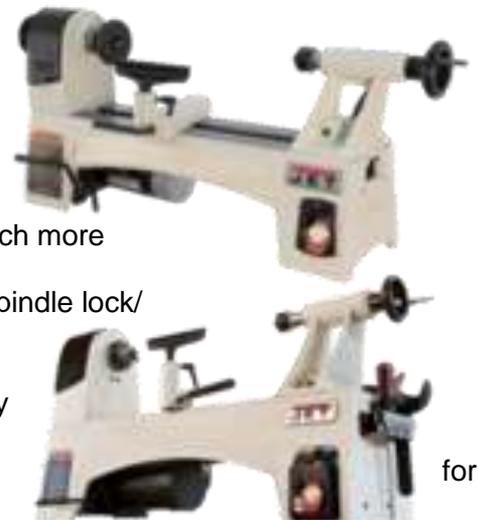
Slightly larger than the JWL-1014 is the JWL-1220 which accommodates 12" x 20" (300mm x 500mm) workpieces. It is only R500- more at R9900- and may be better value.

Most of these lathes have a 1" x 8 tpi spindle, but some were built with the M33 x 3.5 thread for the European market, so confirm which will be supplied before ordering. It also has a spindle lock with indexing.

The WWA has a Jet 1014 at our Albertskroon workshop which you can try out before making a decision.

The newer Jet 1221VS has only a slight increase in capacity compared to the JWL-1220 but is a significant redesign. It looks visually different, with a much wider bed, weighs much more (55kg) - it is altogether a much more substantial lathe. It is also much more expensive.

The capacity is 12" x 21" (318mm x 520mm). It has a 24-position spindle lock/indexing pin. Variable speed drive is provided by a 1 horsepower (750W) DC motor offering three speed ranges of 60-900/110-1800/220-3600 rpm. It has significant flexibility and apparently, very good low speed torque. At Smit has used his for the past 4 years and he is delighted with it. A bed extension is available if required longer workpieces. The 1221VS presently lists at R21700-



for

**Mr Woodturner** now imports the **Charnwood** range of lathes. Two models are offered, the W815 and the W824

The **Charnwood W815** is capable of mounting workpieces up to 330mm long by 200mm diameter (13" x 8"). It has a variable speed DC motor with a single belt ratio, giving a speed range of 750 to 3200 rpm. The chuck



fixing is the common 1" x 8 tpi thread, but the headstock and tailstock tapers are #1 MT, which are perfectly adequate for a lathe of this size. It does mean that some accessories will be more difficult to source than the more widely available #2 MT. The Record range of lathes used #1 MT tapers, so this may help you to find additional drive and tail centres if you need them. This lathe is well priced, at R3800- but is most likely to appeal to pen and miniature turners. With only a single belt ratio, it can be expected that when turning large work pieces at the lowest speed setting, there will be a lack of low-down torque – something to check before you buy one.

The **Charnwood W824** is capable of 300mm diameter by 450mm long work pieces (12" x 18"). It is altogether more substantial than the W815 and is very similar to the other Mini lathes in the market.



It has the usual 1" x 8 tpi head stock spindle thread and #2 MT sockets in the headstock and tail stock, giving a wide choice of accessories. The motor is a 550W (3/4 horsepower for those old enough to remember horsepower) DC motor with a variable speed controller. The overall speed range of 500 to 4000 rpm is achieved in two ranges using two belt drive ranges (500 to 2000 rpm and 1000 to 4000rpm). Spindle speeds are shown on an LCD readout. The minimum speed is still quite high at 500 rpm at the low-speed belt setting, however torque is likely to be considerably better than its baby brother at the lowest speed setting, but I would still check this before buying. The belt cover lifts off so belt changing can be done by sight and not by feel as in some other lathes (Jet 1014). It also has a 24-position indexer. The W824 lists at R7600-

### Creative Turning

New in the local market, imported by respected Pretoria woodturner, Carel van der Merwe is a range of 3 lathes.

The smallest is the **CT150VS1** which resembles the Adendorf lathe, but has variable speed. Using a 550W DC motor and 3 steps on the belt drive, it has a speed range of 650 to 3800 rpm. 305mm diameter by 430mm long (12" x 17") workpieces can theoretically be accommodated, although remember to allow for clearance for the tool-rest banjo. The spindle thread is the widely used 1" x 8 tpi with #2 MT sockets in the head and tail stocks. The 550W motor is powerful and should be adequate for most tasks, although, if you intend turning larger work pieces, check whether the minimum speed is low enough and the low-speed torque is adequate for your needs. The **CT150VS1** is listed at R6350-



Next in the range is the **CT175VS1**. This lathe is nearly twice the weight of its baby brother, with increased capacity of 355mm x 500mm (14" x 20"). It has a 750W induction



motor, with a variable speed inverter, which combined with three pulley ratios has a speed range of 100 to 4000 rpm. Due to the inverter drive and larger motor, the slow-speed torque is likely to be much more substantial than the DC motors of the smaller models. The spindle thread is the widely used 1" x 8 tpi with #2 MT sockets in the head and tail stocks. The increased capabilities are reflected in the price of R15200-.

Bed extensions are listed for the larger lathe, but not the smaller two, so this is something to check if you are likely to want to turn longer workpieces such as table legs.

### **Technatool.**

A Nova Comet II was purchased by the WWA for demonstrations at the Living Link hall, superseding the Jet 1014 Mini. In addition to a larger capacity than the Jet, with 305 x 420mm (12" x 17"), it has a variable speed drive. A 550W DC motor is used to provide variable speeds, forward and reverse. Using three belt drive ratios (250-680; 530-1420; 1380-4000 rpm), it offers significantly more capability for demonstrations than the Jet 1014.



The belt cover swings up to expose the belts, so changes can be done by sight and not feel. Low speed torque is adequate on the lowest belt speed, except with the largest workpieces, when a very light cut will be required. It has a spindle lock/indexer and weighs about 40 kg. It has the usual 1" x 8 tpi head stock spindle thread and #2 MT sockets in the headstock and tail stock.

With use, a few issues have arisen with the example we have that you should bear in mind before deciding to buy one. The spindle lock needed fettling to stop it rattling against the spindle when disengaged. The tailstock quill lock is on the top and actually gets in the way if you are hollowing with the tail centre brought up for support. Some people don't like the tail-stock locking mechanism, as it is difficult to refit the tail stock once removed, although, I am sure that with practise, you will manage with this. Also, the lathe seems rather light for the swing capacity, but this can be addressed by bolting it down to the bench. The speed range markings on the speed control dial are so small as to be almost illegible.

None of these are serious but should be borne in mind when making a decision to buy.

A bed extension is available if required for longer workpieces. (See [www.strandhardware.co.za](http://www.strandhardware.co.za) for more information.) The Comet II lists at R9900-